

Walk No. 3

Eype - West Bay - Burton Bradstock

A short walk east along the coastal path takes you to West Bay. Bridport Harbour changed its name to West Bay when a train line was built in the late 1800's and the fishing hamlet with its maritime buildings expanded as houses were built. The harbour was used for import/export trade until the 1960's. Fishing as an industry, continues today. Here you will find pubs, cafes and galleries.

The walk to West Bay is a relatively easy 25 minutes walk with a distance of less than a mile. The gradients of hills and obstacles involved should be relatively easy for even the inexperienced walker. Follow the road from the hotel down towards the beach; heading to your left you will join the South West Coastal Path. Climbing the hill you will then see Highlands End Caravan Park on your left. Continue on the path which descends into West Bay. A prominent feature of the harbourside is Pier Terrace, designed by the Arts and Crafts Movement architect Edward Schroeder Prior in 1885. A walk around the harbour takes you to East Beach and East Cliff.

For the energetic, climbing East Cliff and walking along the cliff top will take you along the perimeter of Bridport Golf Club to Freshwater Beach (approximately 30 minutes) with its holiday park, here you may take the footbridge and go inland to Burton Bradstock village or continue onwards and follow the coastal path which will eventually take you past the Burton Cliff Hotel and then down into Hive (or Burton) Beach which is a coarse long sandy beach overlooked by cliffs, where you will find the Hive Beach Cafe.

Nearest Toilets:

West Bay, Burton Village and Burton Hive Beach Car Park

Nearest Car Parks:

Eype, West Bay and Burton Hive Beach (National Trust)

Nearest Refreshments:

Eype's Mouth Hotel, West Bay (pubs, kiosks, cafes), Burton Bradstock Village (pubs, shop in Texaco garage), Burton Hive Beach (cafe).